

ANNUAL REPORT

For the YEAR 1925,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

TO THE

Todmorden Rural District Council

BY

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL,


M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Presented June, 1926.

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Todmorden Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Holme House,
Hebden Bridge,
May, 1926.

To the Chairman and Members of the Todmorden Rural
District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the Todmorden Rural District for the year 1925. The report this year will differ from preceding years inasmuch as, by order of the Ministry of Health, it will be in the nature of a Survey Report covering the five preceding years.

The District is mainly composed of hilly country, the lowest part lying about 350 feet above sea level and the highest 1,559 feet. The River Calder, the Rochdale Canal, and the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and the Halifax and Todmorden Main Road lie close together along the valley at the lowest part of the District.

The area of the District is 20,501 acres. The population was 4,587 in 1921, and the estimated population for the year 1925 is 4,566. Some of the inhabitants belong to the farming class, but the majority are employed as operatives in the various cotton mills in the District and in the adjoining Urban District in the wholesale clothing works and the weaving sheds. In the year 1921 there were 1,527 inhabited houses in the District, and the number of families or separate occupiers in that year was 3.0. In 1925 there were 1,556 houses in the District, of which thirty were uninhabited. The estimated average number of occupants per house for the year 1925 is 2.9. The rateable value is £33,835, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £127 14s. 3d. The amount of Poor Law Relief for the year 1925 was £371.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Births—	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	53	26	27
Illegitimate	1	0	1
Birth-Rate (R.G.).....	11.8 per 1000.		
Birth-Rate (England and Wales)	18.3 per 1000.		
	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	64	33	31
Death-Rate (R.G.)	14.0 per 1000.		
Death-Rate (England and Wales)	12.2 per 1000.		
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth			
From Sepsis—Nil. From other causes—1.			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age—			
Legitimate—Total 5; Males 2, Females 3.			
Illegitimate—Total 0; Males 0, Females 0.			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1000 Births:—			
Legitimate 74. Legitimate and Illegitimate, total 74.			
Deaths of Infants under one year per 1000 Births (England and Wales—75.			
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... Nil.			
Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil.			
Deaths from Whooping Cough Nil.			
Deaths from Influenza 1.			
Deaths from Scarlet Fever 1.			
Deaths from Cancer 8.			

HOSPITALS.

There are no Hospitals in the Todmorden Rural District, but those available are:—

Tuberculosis... The Sanatoria under County Council Grants
 Maternity..... Maternity Ward, Royal Infirmary, Halifax.
 Children.....Children's Ward of Royal Halifax Infirmary.
 Fever.....Fielden Hospital, Todmorden, for cases of
 Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Enteric only.
 Smallpox.....Sourhall Hospital, Todmorden.
 Other.....Royal Infirmary, Halifax.

No Institutional provision provided for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, or homeless children, other than the Union Hospital (Stansfield View, Todmorden).

The Fielden and Sourhall Hospitals are managed respectively by the Joint Hospital Committees, and Todmorden Rural District is one of the local authorities of each Committee, the finances of the Committees being met by precept.

The Royal Halifax Infirmary is purely a voluntary institution, and is very well supported by the inhabitants of this district.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by an Ambulance from the Fever Hospital. Non-infectious and Accident cases are removed by an Ambulance jointly owned by Hebden Bridge Urban Council, Mytholmroyd Urban Council, and Todmorden Rural Council. Both these Ambulances are of the modern motor type, and with regard to the Accident Ambulance, patients are called upon to pay a nominal amount on each occasion when the same is used.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

See Table C, page 22.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

See Table C, page 22.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Professional nursing in the home is principally carried out where possible by either of the two District Nurses attached to the neighbouring Nursing Institution of Hebden Bridge. These nurses are qualified both in general and maternity nursing, and are open to attend confinements at a small fixed fee. Owing to the very hilly nature of the district and the inaccessibility of many of the patients' homes, it is quite impossible under existing circumstances for these nurses to undertake as much work as they would otherwise be able to, and until some arrangements can be mutually agreed upon with neighbouring authorities whereby means of conveyance could at all times be secured, the nursing provided in the Rural District must be considered inadequate. I have repeatedly emphasised the need for Maternity Nurses in your areas, and when the services of at least one or two can be secured, I feel confident the infant mortality will show a very appreciable decline. There is no registered nurse practising or resident in the rural area, whilst I am confident there is enough work to keep more than one very busy.

There are no arrangements for professional nursing in the home for infectious diseases, e.g., measles, etc.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield. Auto-genous vaccines and sera are supplied free of charge to local medical men requiring same. The services of the laboratory are much availed of by all the local practitioners in this district.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the Rural Council free of charge to any medical practitioner requiring it.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

1889, Dec. 4.—The Todmorden Union R.S.A. adopted the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, to come into operation on February 1st, 1900. (53 and 54, Vict., c. 34).

1891, June 3.—Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict., c. 34), adopted in its entirety, to come into operation on 1st August, 1891.

1891, June 3.—Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict., c. 59), Part 3 of Act, so far as applicable to a Rural Authority, adopted, to come into operation on 1st August, 1891.

1885, June 19.—Order of Local Government Board, investing Guardians with Urban powers to contributory place of Heptonstall. Secs. 42 and 44 Public Health Act, 1875; Secs. 157 and 158, Public Health Act, 1875.

1902, Jan. 4.—Order of Local Government Board investing R.D.C. with Urban powers as to providing and maintaining public urinals and determining expenses incurred to be special expenses. Applies to all the R.D.

1893, Sept. 19.—Order of Local Government Board declaring expenses incurred under Sections 42, 44, 157 and 158 of the Public Health Act, 1875, within the Contributory place of Heptonstall, to be " Special Expenses " within the meaning of Sections 229 and 230 of the said Act, and to be charged upon the said Contributory place.

1887, Nov. 3. 1890, April 29.—Heptonstall Drainage Scheme. 2.11.87 Letter and Order re Special Expenses.

1907, Dec. 26.—Order (No. 51,789) of the L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers (for the Parish of Blackshaw) Sec. 160 Public Health Act incorporating Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, respecting naming of streets and numbering of houses. Expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses and chargeable upon Blackshaw only.

1909, Feb. 17.—Order (No. 53,340) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Sect. 45 of the P.H. Act 1875, for Blackshaw, Erringden, Heptonstall, and Wadsworth, re Refuse Tips. Expenses to be Special (excepting establishment and officers) and chargeable on Contributory places accordingly.

1909, July 16.—Order (54,103) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Sect. 42 Public Health Act 1875, re Watering of Streets, for Blackshaw, Erringden, and Wadsworth (Heptonstall being provided for by previous Order). Expenses to be Special (establishment and officers excepted) and chargeable accordingly on Contributory places.

1912, Feb. 29.—Order (58,239) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers for Parishes of Erringden, Heptonstall, and Wadsworth. Sect. 160 Public Health Act 1875, incorporating Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847, respecting Naming of Streets and Numbering of Houses. Expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon the Parish in respect of which they have been incurred.

1912, April 10.—Order (58,488) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban powers under Secs. 42 and 44 of Public Health Act 1875 (so far as not previously in force) for Blackshaw, Erringden and Wadsworth (Heptonstall having already such powers under Orders of 1885 and 1893), and declaring expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon Parish in respect of which they are incurred. Sec. 42 relates to Scavenging and Cleansing; Sec. 44 relates to Bye-laws for ditto.

1919, March 20.—Order (65,193) of L.G.B. determining all expenses (except establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon Parish in respect of which they are incurred. Applies to Blackshaw, Erringden, and Wadsworth. For Cleansing of Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools. As to removal of House Refuse see Order of 17th February, 1909. For Heptonstall see Order of 19th September, 1893.

1919, Nov. 10.—Order 65,544 of Minister of Health declaring all expenses legally incurred in respect of Sewage Disposal Works for Contributory Place of Heptonstall to be Special Expenses.

1921, Feb. 26.—Order 66,973, Ministry of Health, to operate from 21st March, 1921, investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers with respect to Fires in respect of the Rural District. General Expenses.

1924, Jan. 14.—Order 68,972, Ministry of Health, declaring Section 50 (as to Ambulance) of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907, to be in force in Todmorden Rural District. General expenses.

1924, Jan. 28.—Order 69,998, investing Todmorden R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Section 154 of Public Health Act 1875, as to purchase of premises for widening etc. any street in the Rural District, but not for the making of a new street. General expenses.

1925, Feb. 16.—Home Secretary Order 472 867/1, putting Section 90 (Agreements as to Fire Appliances) of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 into force in Todmorden Rural District. General Expenses.

1925, May 9.—M.H. Order No. 69,980, investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers (re Public Lighting) under Section 161 of the 1st paragraph P.H. Act 1875, in all the Contributory Places, and Section 163 in Contributory Places of Blackshaw and Erringden. Expenses to be Special Expenses upon the Contributory Place in respect of which they have been incurred.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

There are four parishes in the area, viz., Wadsworth, Erringden, Heptonstall, and Blackshaw.

Water.—The supply from each is obtained from moorlands, springs, and wells. The greater portion of the supply in the parish of Blackshaw is stored in cisterns and supplied directly to the houses, except in the more remote parts, where the supply is obtained from springs and wells. In the parish of Wadsworth the supply is obtained from springs and wells and stored in reservoirs and cisterns, and in most cases the water is laid on to the houses. In the parish of Erringden, the supply is obtained purely from springs, and is collected in cisterns and laid on to the houses in many cases, other houses having to obtain their supplies from wells. In the parish of Heptonstall the Council have a supply of water which is pumped from a deep well by a windmill, stored in a cistern, and supplies are laid on to many of the houses in the Colden area. The supply to the more thickly populated parts of this parish, viz., Slack and Heptonstall, is obtained from springs. In the village of Heptonstall there are four storage cisterns with pumps affixed close by, from which the inhabitants obtain their supplies. There is a private supply laid on to about 20 houses, the origin of this supply being from a spring; in addition there are 36 houses supplied by private pumps.

In this parish there is and has always been a definite and serious shortage of water during any dry season. This statement is borne out by the fact that the supply was intermittent in 1921 for 31 days, in 1922 for 32 days, and during last year for 103 days. During 76 of these days the water was supplemented from a private supply, by permission of the owners. There are definite possibilities of contamination of the water in the Slack area; the water supply here originates from a spring and runs to open wells, from which it has to be obtained by people requiring it. During the year 1925 there was no serious contamination of the water in any of the parishes discovered, though one supply was reported, but on examination was "found to be satisfactory." As the water in all the area is liable to have plumbosolvent action precaution has been taken to avoid this action.

Rivers and Streams.—Pollution of rivers and streams was discovered in each of the parishes on various occasions during the past five years, the nature of the pollution being that the drainage and sewage of several houses discharge into these. Action is being taken to minimise the pollution by connecting the drainage of the houses to the sewer where possible. In the parish of Blackshaw 34 houses have been connected with the sewer. In the parish of Erringden, where pollution by sewage of the stream has occurred, the matter has been fully investigated, and it was found impracticable to drain these houses to an efficient sewer.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The methods adopted are as follows:—

In Blackshaw, any houses which are situated close to the neighbouring drainage system of the Hebden Bridge Council, the drainage is discharged into their sewer, but in the more isolated parts of this parish the drainage and sewage is dealt with by discharging on to the land. The same arrangements exist to a less degree in Erringden. In the parish of Wadsworth the drainage and sewage is dealt with similarly to that of Blackshaw. In the parish of Heptonstall a sewage works exists which deals with the sewage from the village, the houses outside the village discharging their drainage and sewage on to the land. Alterations and improvements at the sewage works to avoid pollution by the effluent discharging into the Hebden Water are at present under consideration by the Council. This is the only parish in the area with its own sewage disposal works.

Closet Accommodation.—The main details are dealt with separately under this heading in Table C, page 18. Fourteen of the insanitary type have been abolished. There are 138 water closets, which shows an increase of 19 in five

years. Their distribution is as follows: 75 in Charlestown, 42 in Wadsworth, 12 in Erringden, and 9 in Heptonstall. In the Charlestown area the conversion to water closets is proceeding. Great difficulties present themselves in other parts of your district, owing to the insufficiency of the water supplies and the distance of the houses from any available or satisfactory sewer. Until these difficulties can be overcome the conversion of the insanitary type to the modern water closet will perforce be a slow process.

Scavenging. — Blackshaw: The weekly collection of house refuse from movable ashbins was extended in 1921, the cleansing of privies etc. being at present carried out by the owners or occupiers. This cleansing, the Sanitary Inspector states, is not being carried out as regularly or as satisfactorily as it used to be formerly.

Erringden.—My remarks are similar to those in preceding paragraph. An extension of the collection of house refuse was added in 1923.

Wadsworth.—Slight extension in the emptying of house refuse and emptying of privies has taken place. The farmers have now discontinued using the excreta for manuring purposes, and a tip situated at Cock Hill was then used for their disposal. This tip was not found to be suitable, and steps are being taken to obtain more suitable sites.

Heptonstall. — In this parish a weekly collection of house refuse is carried out and ashpits are emptied every two months. In the more thickly populated parts of the parish a weekly cleansing of privies has been carried out since 1922, the privies in the outlying parts being cleansed every two weeks. Any house refuse that can be dealt with by burning is so dealt with. The excreta and refuse are removed to the same tip. There have been 97 fixed ashbins converted into movable ones in recent years. Sanitary Inspection of the area—See Table C, page 17.

Schools.—The sanitary condition of the Sunday Schools in the area may be said to be good. The water supply to the day school in Heptonstall is not at all satisfactory, being purely a rain-water supply. The responsibility of the general health of the children rests with the School Medical Officer for the County, Dr. Kaye, and the Medical Inspectors acting under him. The children are examined regularly with the result that where physical defects are discovered subsequent action is taken with consequent good results. I would like to urge the greater necessity for dental inspection: it is deplorable to find so many of our young children after they leave school with decayed teeth, which should

have been attended to years before. During the past five years the number of schools closed in the hope of abating epidemics of infectious fevers were as follows:—

1921—Two Schools closed during an outbreak of measles and whooping cough.

1922—None.

1923—None.

1924—One, during outbreak of influenza.

1925—One, during measles epidemic.

I have given the Memorandum on closure of and exclusion from school, 1925, received from the Ministry of Health, my careful consideration, and will endeavour in future to avoid the closure of any school on account of infectious disease unless in exceptional cases.

HOUSING.

The general housing conditions in the area may be said to be fairly good, and no shortage of houses can be said to exist. There has been a slight decrease in the population since the census of 1921. In each of the four parishes, viz., Erringden, Wadsworth, Heptonstall, and Blackshaw, there exist many houses of an old type, mainly built from stone, which owing to the hilly nature of the district have been built into the side of the hills, with resultant dampness. Unless the majority of these houses were to be condemned altogether it would appear almost impossible for the owners to remedy this cause. Every effort has and is being made to prevent this dampness by paying particular attention to subsoil drainage, concrete floors, provision of eaves gutters, and pointing. In my inspections I have come across many houses, particularly in the Wadsworth area, where I have found badly constructed bedrooms with insufficient light and ventilation. These defects receive attention when pointed out, and certainly some good improvements have been carried out. There would be a shortage of houses in each parish if it were found feasible to close forthwith the number of houses not reaching the standard of dwelling as laid down by the Ministry. There are a fair number of houses in the area which are only used by visitors to the district as summer residences.

General action taken as regards unfit houses under:—

(a) The Public Health Acts, (b) the Housing Acts—Notices are served under both these Acts when found necessary.

In 1925 there were two notices served under the Public Health Acts and three under the Housing Acts.

There were no complaints received or representations made in regard to unhealthy areas in our district.

There are no bye-laws relating to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, or sheds.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

See Table D, page 24.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

See Table C, page 19.

MEAT.

Inspections are being made each week at the private slaughter-houses, there being no public abattoir in the district. Any condemned meat is disposed of by burning in the nearest available furnace. The administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, relating to stalls, shops, stores, and vehicles, is being carried out.

Slaughterhouses in the area at the following dates:—

	In 1920.		In Jan., 1925.		In Dec., 1925.
Registered	3	...	3	...	3
Licensed	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total.....	3	...	3	...	3

The sanitary conditions of the Bakehouses and other premises where foods are manufactured, stored, or exposed for sale, were on the whole found to be satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

Reviewing the years since 1920, I beg to submit the following particulars regarding the presence of notifiable and other infectious diseases:—

1920.—The total number of notifiable infectious diseases was small, and the year on the whole was a healthy one. There were 12 cases of Scarlet Fever and 10 of Pneumonia notified.

1921.—The only diseases specially prevalent were Measles and Whooping Cough during March and April.

1922.—Scarlet Fever was prevalent during the first and second quarters of the year. There were 22 cases notified throughout the year, but no deaths occurred. There were five cases of Enteric Fever in the village of Heptonstall, the cases being peculiarly localised to one group of houses. The first case notified ended fatally, and it was from this case the others probably became infected. The original source of infection remained doubtful, and was traced to a possible infection during a visit to a seaside resort. There were 7 cases of Pneumonia notified to me during the year, 6 of which died.

1923.—There were 13 cases of Scarlet Fever notified for the year, one case of very mild smallpox, and one case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. The year on the whole was very free from infectious diseases.

1924.—There were 16 cases of Scarlet Fever, one of which died; there were 5 cases of Diphtheria, and 1 of Encephalitis Lethargica (Sleeping Sickness), which ended fatally, and was the first and only one notified in the district. In the first quarter of this year Influenza was very prevalent, but the epidemic was of a mild type. There was only one death recorded from this cause.

During all the epidemics of Infectious Diseases, I have always advocated in the local Press the necessity for proper and strict isolation, particularly as regards the non-notifiable diseases, viz., chickenpox, measles, mumps, and whooping cough. On no occasion was there any definite evidence to show that any of the cases of Scarlet Fever were “return” cases.

There were 10 Vaccinations and Re-vaccinations performed by me in your district as Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917. These vaccinations were all carried out in the year 1923, when in addition to this number there were 30 performed by the Public Vaccinator. It is much to be regretted that it is only when a case of smallpox occurs that the value of vaccination is truly and apparently appreciated.

There were no vaccinations performed by me as Medical Officer of Health before or since 1923.

Only 15 vaccinations were performed in the Rural District during the year 1925. This number represents vaccination on less than a quarter of the children born in the year—a state of affairs which gives much cause for anxiety.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	...	0
Scarlet Fever	16	...	13
Diphtheria	5	...	4
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	...	0
Puerperal Fever	1	...	1
Pneumonia	3	...	0
Erysipelas	1	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..
15 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 .....	...	..	...	1	1	...	...	1
25	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
35	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
45 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Totals ...	4	2	0	2	4	1	0	1

There were six deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, all these cases having been previously notified to me.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was deemed necessary to be taken under the above Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action taken.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was established in the neighbouring town of Hebden Bridge towards the end of the year 1920. One afternoon clinic is held each week for expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age. The clinic is in charge of a lady doctor, the clinic nurse, and a number of local ladies, the latter giving their help voluntarily. The number of patients attending this clinic is steadily increasing. In addition there are two morning clinics held weekly, at which the clinic nurse attends. New-born babies are visited at their homes and are kept under observation, and the mothers advised to attend the clinic when necessary. These clinics are run under the auspices of the Public Health Department of Wakefield. There was one death as a consequence of child-birth. The case was removed to the Maternity Ward, Halifax Infirmary, the cause of death being Eclampsia. There were five deaths of infants under one year; two of these deaths occurred in the first week of life, one being attributable to prematurity and one to convulsions. The other 3 occurred within the first month, 2 being due to convulsions and the other to prematurity. There are no day nurseries in the district. Abnormal or difficult maternity cases are generally sent to the Royal Infirmary at Halifax, some ten miles away, where a very modern and well-equipped Maternity Ward has recently been opened. There is no Institutional provision in our district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate or homeless children, other than at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, or the Union Hospital (Stansfield View, Todmorden). It is gratifying to note that there were no cases of puerperal fever, ophthalmia neonatorum, poliomyelitis, or epidemic diarrhœa, in the district during the year.

I have the honour, Sir and Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS JOSEPH DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,

Medical Officer of Health.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year
1925 for the Rural District of Todmorden, on the
administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Work-
places.**

**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.**

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
Factories	6 ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops.....	6 ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces.....	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Other than Outworkers' premises)			
Total.....	6 ...	Nil ...	Nil

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*

Particulars. ()	Number of Defects.				No. of Prosecu- tions.
	Found (2)	Reme- died. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)		
Want of cleanliness	3 ...	3 ...	Nil ...	Nil	Nil
Want of ventilation	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
Overcrowding	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
Want of drainage of floors.....	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
Other nuisances	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
Sanitary { insufficient	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
accommo- { unsuitable or defective...	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0
dation. { not separate for sexes....	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0	0

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—

Illegal occupation of underground.....					
bakehouse (s. 101).....				None.	
†Other offences				None.	
Total.....	3 ...	3 ...	Nil ...	Nil	Nil

† Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TABLE C, 1925.

TODMORDEN RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Nuisance Inspections.

Total number of Inspections made in 1925, for Nuisances only—323. (For Housing Inspections see Table D).

Nuisances reported in 1925—77.

Total needing abatement—82.

Nuisances in hand, end of 1924—5.

Abated during 1925—78. Outstanding end of 1925—4.

Notices served, Informal—77. Complied with—78, including one outstanding from the previous year.

Notices served, Statutory—Nil. Complied with—Nil.

Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedings—Nil.

Filthy Houses, Cleansing of—Nil.

Any notices served under Sec. 46 of P.H.A. 1875 (or any other Act)—Nil.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	Total No. of Inspections Made.	General Condition.	Legal Pro- ceedings (if any.)
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	...	0	...	...
Houses let in Lodgings...	Nil	...	0	...	..
Canal Boats	Nil	...	0	...	...
Knackers' Yards	Nil	...	0	...	..
Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	24	...	0	7	.. Satisfactory... Nil
Offensive Trades..... (Tripe Boiling).	1	...	1	12	.. Satisfactory... Nil

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades?—No.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Developments during 1925? — 3 houses and 1 shop (Charlestown), 1 house (Heptonstall).

Developments still needed as to (a) **Want of sewers**—Branch Sewers, Charlestown. (b) Improvement of defective sewers—One, Charlestown.

Sewage Disposal Works (a) Any inadequacy—Yes.

(b) Any complaints—Yes, two from West Riding Rivers Board, Sewage Works, Heptonstall, and Charlestown connections.

Any sink wastes still needing disconnection?—No.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of Privies with open middens—12.

No. of Pail or Tub Closets—547.

No. of Privies with covered middens—66.

No. of Water Closets—138. Waste-water Closets—7.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1925: (a) as w.c.'s—7. (b) Other—1.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1925: (a) w.c.'s—Nil. (b) Other—Nil.

No. of Closets constructed in 1925 for new houses: (a) w.c.'s—Nil. (b) Other—Nil.

Scavenging.

Any change during 1925?—No.

Performed by (a) Council—Yes. (b) Contractor—Yes.

(c) Owners or Occupiers—Yes.

How is refuse disposed of? No. of loads to (a) Destructor—None. (b) Tips—1,200. (c) Farmers—80.

Total annual cost—£633.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—No.

Any utilisation of waste material?—No.

Water Supply.

Any developments during 1925?—No.

Restricted in any way?—Yes.

If so, number of days?—103.

Hours of day when cut off?—7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Any general insufficiency, and where—Heptonstall during drought.

Any action in regard to unsatisfactory quality, and where?—No.

Any new sources added?—Temporary private supply for 76 days in Heptonstall.

Any disused sources re-used?—No.

Milk Supply.

Are Two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) of the 1922 Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act?—(a) For Retailers—Yes. (b) For Cow-keepers or Wholesale Traders—Yes.

Have any Licences been granted under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, to distributors of:—

“ Certified ” milk—No. “ Grade A ”—No. “ Grade A (Tuberculin Tested) ”—No. “ Grade A (Pasteurised) ”—No. “ Pasteurised ”—No.

Have you had samples of Graded Milk tested? Give number and kind—No.

Have any Retailers been removed from the Register?—No.

Number of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts—None.

Number of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination—None.

What arrangement for periodical Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows?—None.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1925?—No.

Number of Milk Cows kept in District—1,200.

Number of Cowkeepers in district producing and selling milk—38. Number registered—38.

Number of Retail Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—38. No. who are Milk Retailers only—None.

Total number of Retail Milk Sellers Registered—38.

Total number of Cowsheds—261.

Total number of Inspections in 1925—87. Cowkeepers 42, Retailers 45.

Date of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations?—September 21st, 1900.

Any Legal Action?—No.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent?—No.

Other Foods.

Number of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1925—Nil.

Any special examination of Milk for dirt?—No.

Number of seizures of unsound food—2.

Kind and quantity—R. hind quarter of a cow and 1 pig.

Number of Prosecutions—Nil.

Any Public Abattoir?—No.

What accommodation?—Slaughter-houses.

Number of Slaughter-houses—3.

Registered—3. Licensed—Nil.

Unsatisfactory, structurally or in bad position?—Fair.

No. of times each Slaughter-house inspected?—12.

Total Inspections—36.

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs—Nil. (b) Unsound Food—Nil. (c) Re Slaughter-house—Nil.

Bakehouses, No.—5. Any underground?—No.

Total number of Inspections—28.

Schools.

Number of Schools in district—5.

Number visited by M.O.H.—2.

Action taken—One disinfected for Measles, one for Scarlet Fever.

Schools closed by M.O.H.—During measles epidemic.

Factories and Workshops.

No. of Smoke observations taken—Nil. No. of Cautions—Nil. Legal Notices—Nil. Summonses—Nil.

No. of Workshops—Nil. No. of times each Workshop inspected—Nil. Total Inspections—Nil.

Any Industrial Welfare Workers appointed—No.

Adoptive Acts.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 — All. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—As far as applicable to a rural area. Do. 1907—Sec. 50 (Ambulance).

Private Street Works Act, 1892—No.

Public Health Act, 1925—No.

For Rural Districts: Any Urban Powers obtained in 1925—Sections 161 and 163 of P.H. Act, 1875 (Public Lighting).

Bye-laws and Regulations in force in District.

Subject.	Date of Approval.
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	None Approved.
Scavenging	„
Prevention of Nuisances	„
Common Lodging Houses	„
New Streets and Buildings.....	„
Alteration of Buildings	„
Slaughter-Houses	„
Baths and Wash-Houses	„
Houses let in Lodgings	„
Cemeteries	„
Mortuaries	„
Offensive Trades	„
Tents, Vans, and Sheds	„

Any relaxation of Bye-laws under Section 24 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919—No.

Infectious and other Diseases.

Diseases specially prevalent in 1925?—Measles, Influenza, Scarlet Fever.

State months—1st, 3rd and 4th quarters.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list?—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the district?—No.

Any undue prevalence of Venereal Diseases?—No.

Any prevalence of Jaundice, and at what ages?—No.

Hospitals and other Institutions.

(a) General: Accident—One. Address—Royal Infirmary, Halifax.

Children—One. Address—Royal Infirmary (Children's Ward).

(b) Local: Hospital, Cottage—None.

(c) Infectious, General—One. Address—Fielden Hospital, Todmorden.

Do., Smallpox—One. Address—Sourhall Hospital, Todmorden.

(d) Maternity—One. Address — Halifax Infirmary (Maternity Ward).

Any arrangement for nursing Puerperal Fever cases?—Yes, at Halifax Infirmary.

(e) Clinic and Treatment Centre not provided by County Council Scheme—None.

Whether any other disease (e.g. Pneumonia) is treated in Infectious Diseases Hospital—No.

Any change or extension of (a) General Infectious Hospital—No. (b) Smallpox Hospital—No.

Tuberculosis.—Procedure by M.O.H. or his staff after notification.

(1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop—By M.O.H. and Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Examination for contacts—Generally done at Tuberculosis Dispensary.

(3) Is house disinfected?—Yes. When?—After removal of patient or after death.

(4) Leaflets, Lectures, etc., distributed—Yes.

(5) Action re spitting—Notices distributed at factories.

(6) Is sputum examined apart from Dispensary?—Yes.

(7) Any special procedure adopted in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis with T.B. in sputum—Flasks provided and patients requested to burn sputum.

(8) Are the requirements of Tuberculosis Regulations as to notification observed by general practitioners?—Yes.

Bacteriology (County Laboratory). Any suggestions?—No.

Infant Mortality.

Any suggestions?—No.

Any voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare?—No.

Causes of excessive Infant Mortality in 1925—None.

Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants. Any action?—Artificial foods supplied at reduced rates from the Hebden Bridge Clinic.

Vital Statistics.

Number of Still Births during 1925—None.

Deaths during 1925: (1) Gross Deaths, i.e., Total actually registered in the District without any correction—Males 26, Females 24.

(2) No. of uncertified deaths (included above)—None.

Mortuaries.

What accommodation—(a) for accidents—Mortuary at Lewis Holme, Hebden Bridge. (b) For infectious cases other than at hospital—None. (c) For other purposes—None.

Any suggestions made by M.O.H.—Some minor improvements in existing mortuary.

Sanitary Staff.

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.—£58

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Edgar Simcox.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£120.

Other appointments held—Highway Surveyor.

Salary for such other appointments—£119.

Any Assistants?—No. Is Staff sufficient?—Yes.

Does M.O.H. receive Copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by the Ministry of Health?—Yes.

Clinics. Any Suggestions—

(a) Tuberculosis—The establishment of a Dispensary nearer than the existing ones.

(b) Venereal Diseases—How advertised and if any difficulty in reaching nearest?—No particular advertisement during the year. Nearest clinic 8 to 10 miles distant.

(c) Child Welfare—No.

(d) Ante-Natal—No.

(e) School—No.

(f) Dental—More regular inspection of the children attending Schools and subsequent treatment.

(g) Ophthalmic—No.

Any Remarks as to—

- (a) Voluntary Agencies for social betterment—No.
- (b) District Nursing Association—No provision of nurses in the area. More work could be got through by the two nurses attached to the Hebden Bridge Nursing Association if a means of conveyance was provided for them.
- (c) Any Dispensary—The provision of a local Tuberculosis Dispensary.
Purpose of—Facilitating attendance of local people.
- (d) Health Visiting (co-operation with local M.O.H.)—No.
- (e) Tuberculosis, Home Visiting do. do. and medical attendant—No.
- (f) Dental Services—The available services are quite insufficient considering the amount of work required to be carried out.
- (g) Midwifery Services—No.
- (h) Propaganda Work re Tuberculosis, Child Welfare, or Venereal Diseases—No.

Housing—See Table D—but please state No. of Certificates given under Increase of Rent (Restriction) Act, 1920, Sec. 2 (2)—None.

Special Reports and Investigations on any subjects—None.

Supplementary Remarks as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries.

TABLE D.**Summary of Housing Work during 1925.**

Table showing action under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning etc. Act, 1909, Section 28 of the 1919 Act, Section 10 of the 1923 Act, Sections 3, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15 of the Housing Act, 1925, and the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, dated September 2nd, 1910, or matters arising therefrom.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1924.

Houses not reasonably fit for habitation. Section 28, 1919; Section 10, 1923—3.

Houses (recorded under "Housing") with minor defects (Public Health Acts)—3.

Houses totally unfit (Sections 17 and 18, 1909)—0.

"Houses inspected for Housing defects" in 1925 under Acts and Regulations.

Total Inspected and recorded—

Houses found satisfactory on inspection—

Houses needing further action—8.

Houses not reasonably fit. Action under Section 28, 1919; Section 10 of 1923; and Section 1, 1925.

Houses found with defects—3.

Houses of this class remedied without formal notice—0.

Houses in regard to which formal notices were served—0

Houses made fit after formal notice—3.

Houses in respect of which the Council executed or were executing work in default of owner—0.

Houses in regard to which owner elected to close house instead of complying with notices—0.

Action under Public Health Acts in cases of houses with minor defects not remediable under Section 28, 1919; Section 10 of 1923; and Section 1 of 1925.

Houses with defects—5.

Houses remedied without service of formal notice—0.

Houses in regard to which formal notices were served—2.

Houses made satisfactory after formal notice—5 (including three from last year).

Unfit Houses.

Action under Sections 17 or 18, 1909; Sections 9, 11, 14 of 1925.

Houses found to be totally unfit—0.

Houses closed voluntarily—0.

Unfit houses remedied without formal notice—0.

Houses represented to Council for closing orders—0.

Houses in respect of which closing orders were made—0.

Houses closed after service of closing order—0.

Houses made fit and closing order determined by the Council—2.

Houses demolished voluntarily—0.

Houses for which demolition orders were made by Council—0.

Houses demolished compulsorily—0.

Appeals.

Appeals against notices under Section 28, 1919, or Section 10, 1923, or Section 3, 1925—0.

Appeals against closing orders under Section 17, 1909; Section 14 (4), 1925—0.

Appeals under Section 17 (6) 1909, or Section 11 (6) 1925, refusal to determine closing orders—0.

Appeals against demolition orders; Section 18, 1909; Section 14, 1925—0.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1925.

Houses not reasonably fit for habitation. Section 28, 1919; Section 10, 1923; Section 1, 1925—0.

Houses (recorded under "Housing") with minor defects (Public Health Acts)—0.

Houses totally unfit. (Sections 17 and 18, 1909; Sections 9, 11, 14, 1925)—0.

Other Action in regard to Housing:—

Total number of houses in district—1,556.

Number of working-class houses—1,496.

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I., 1919—Very fair, geographical altitude and contours make comparison difficult.

Obstructive Buildings.—Any building represented by M.O.H. under Sec. 38 (1) of 1890, or Sec. 19, 1925 Act—No.

Any building represented by Local Government Electors under Sec. 38 (2) of 1890 Act, or by a Justice of the Peace, Parish Council, or 4 Government Electors under Section 10, 1925 Act?—No.

Unhealthy Areas—Any representations under Part I. or II. of the 1890 Act or Part II. of the 1925 Act? If so, give particulars—No.

Re-construction Schemes.—Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Sec. 39 of 1890 Act or Part II. of the 1925 Act?—No.

Conversion of Houses.—Any houses acquired for division into separate tenements, under the 1919 Act or of closed houses under Section 4, 1925 Act? If so give particulars—No.

Penalty on re-letting houses ordered to be closed.—Any action under Sec. 12 of 1925 Act?—No.

Unfit Houses.—Any complaints by Local Government Electors under Section 31 of 1890 Act as amended by the 1923 Act or Section 10, 1925?—No.

Unfit Houses. — Any complaints by Parish Councils under Section 6 (2) of Local Government Act, 1894?—No.

Any action under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 to 1923?—No.

Any scarcity of houses?—If so, where?—No.

Any overcrowding in houses, and where?—No.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 17 (7) 1909 Act, or under Section 18, 1925 Act?—No.

Total number of houses built in the district under State-aided and all conditions in 1925. (a) Working Class Dwellings—Nil. (b) Other—Nil.

State-aided Housing Schemes.

A. Scheme under 1919 Act.

Number of houses erected in 1925. (1) By Council—Nil. (2) By Private Builders' Subsidy—Nil.

B. Scheme under 1923 Act.

Have Council propounded a scheme under this Act?—No.

Has a scheme been submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval?—No.

Is assistance given to private individuals?—No.

Number of houses completed by Local Authority under this scheme in 1925—Nil.

Do. by Private Persons do.—Nil.

Do. by Public Utility Societies do.—Nil.

C. Scheme under 1924 Act.

No. of houses provisionally approved by Ministry—Nil.

No. of houses specifically approved by Ministry—Nil.

Number of houses completed under special conditions—Nil.

Number of houses purchased with approval of Ministry—Nil.

Total number of houses provided under all State-aided schemes in 1925—Nil.

Town Planning.

Have Council joined a Regional Town Planning Committee in 1925?—No.

Have Council passed a resolution in 1925 deciding to prepare a scheme?—No.

Any scheme contemplated?—No.

Have Council propounded a scheme in 1925?—No.

Has a scheme been finally approved by the Ministry of Health in 1925?—No.

Has a scheme been submitted to the Ministry of Health in 1925?—No.

Has a preliminary statement been prepared and submitted to the Ministry for approval in 1925?—No.

Name and Address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—Edgar Simcox, 32, Edge Hey Green, Heptonstall.

(Signed)

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

